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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

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**TO:** Examiner Greg Toatley **FAX:** (571) 273-2059

**FROM:** May Lin DeHaan **DATE:** January 30, 2004

**RE:** U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/735,697  
Entitled: "Apparatus and Method for Powering Multiple Peripheral Devices  
from a Color-Coded Central Power Source"  
Filed: December 12, 2000  
Our Docket No. P1230

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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Please see the attached Informal Response to Office Action.

MLD/pa

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PATENT  
Docket No. P1230

## INFORMAL RESPONSE PLEASE DO NOT ENTER

IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: NOEL LEE

SERIAL NO.: 09/735,697

EXAMINER: GREG TOATLEY

FILED: DECEMBER 12, 2000

ART UNIT: 2836

FOR: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR POWERING MULTIPLE  
PERIPHERAL DEVICES FROM A COLOR-CODED CENTRAL  
POWER SOURCE

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

### INFORMAL AMENDMENT RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

To the Commissioner:

This letter is an Informal Response to the non-final Office Action, dated November 28, 2003. The Applicant is hereby respectfully requesting favorable consideration of the following proposed amendment and remarks, under 37 CFR § 1.111.

## AMENDMENT

**In the Claims:**      **Kindly cancel Claims 41-48, without prejudice; and kindly add new Claims 49-76 as follows.**

49.    (new) An AC electrical power strip apparatus, the apparatus comprising:  
an input power cord member;  
a power strip having an electrical distribution main electrically coupled to the input  
power cord member;  
5    a plurality of electrical output receptacle sets electrically coupled to the main, each  
receptacle set defining an AC electrical outlet circuit surrounded by an outlet  
body structure; and  
a housing member, the housing member having means for receiving an end of the input  
power cord member and for providing a secure insulated housing for the  
10    receptacle sets, the housing member having means for partitioning access to,  
and for facilitating electrical engagement with, a corresponding receptacle set  
including the outlet body structure surrounding the circuit, and each outlet body  
structure having a distinct color.

50.    (new) An AC electrical power strip apparatus, as recited in claim 49,  
wherein the partitioning and facilitating means includes means for identifying a  
corresponding peripheral device to be electrically engaged to the corresponding  
receptacle set, and  
wherein the identifying means includes an indicia corresponding to each corresponding  
peripheral device.

51.    (new) An AC electrical power strip apparatus, as recited in claim 50, wherein a  
plurality of solid colored stickers is provided, including a sticker for selective  
attachment to a corresponding electrical cord providing power to each corresponding  
peripheral device utilizing the power strip, the sticker having a color matching that of  
each corresponding outlet body structure to be utilized for powering each  
5    corresponding peripheral device.